

## CHARWOMAN OR NURSE?

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—I would like to call your attention to another of the many combinations of Charwoman and Nurse, to which we ought now to have become quite used.

## ROCHFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

—CARETAKER and NURSE for Isolation Hospital.—The Council invite APPLICATIONS for the above appointments, at a joint salary of £1 per week, with fire and lighting (no rations).

Applicants must be man and wife, without encumbrance, and the woman must have had experience in nursing.

The Rochford Rural District Council should really consult some expert Nurse as to the arrangements for their Isolation Hospital. No wonder people try and conceal the fact of their suffering from infectious diseases, when they are liable to be hurried off to a Hospital where they will be under the ministrations of "the wife of a caretaker," who does the grates and the sweeping, with a little nursing learnt by "experience"—thrown in!

Truly yours,  
ROCHFORDIANA,  
But not a Member of the Council.

## UNTRAINED NURSES.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

DEAR MADAM,—One would have thought that the time had come when Nurses, as a body, were so protected that their rights could not be infringed upon by any outside community, but it seems that that happy period has not yet arrived. We read in last week's RECORD that Nurses are trained at Plaistow, under proper teachers and supervision, but there is no mention of any Hospital in connection with their training.

The question is, are these would-be Nurses to be recognised, and sent out into the world as trained Nurses? Secondly, is any woman entitled to the distinction and the title of Nurse who has not trained in some Hospital?

These Nurses not only work amongst the poor of Plaistow, but are sent out into other counties to work in all sorts of ways.

I am not at this moment thinking of obstetric work. It seems that general Nursing is taken as well. Now these good people *may* have had their Nurses trained in some General Hospital before being allowed to take up these two special branches of the profession, as general training is required before a Nurse is considered qualified for district work. But what makes me feel so strongly on the subject is a case coming under my notice, and I wish I had the pen of the ready writer, to be able to put down all I do feel on this subject.

This year I met a private Nurse, who was sent down to the East end to nurse a serious acute case. She nursed the patient satisfactorily through the crisis. Her successor was a most inexperienced person, so far as her knowledge of Nursing was concerned, and who was supposed to have had six months' training. I need not add that the said Nurse was working for half-fees. Now this is by no means an isolated case, but part of a system, and it remains with Doctors and Matrons, and those in authority, to put down such a system.

I enclose the name and address of the trained Nurse the first Nurse in the case, for your own information.

Believe me to remain, dear Madam,

Very faithfully yours,

J. A.

## HOLIDAYS.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—In the June number of *Travel* the following good advice is given to Alpine climbers, from which, judging from previous correspondence I have seen in the NURSING RECORD I think Nurses perhaps might also profit:—

"All the best Alpine climbers I know are agreed that a thin pair of socks, worn next the feet, with a very thick pair of stockings outside, is the best equipment for a hard day's work, when the feet are inclined to be tender. I have found it a splendid expedient to lather the inside sock thoroughly with good soap, and then pour methylated spirit over the sock, and put it on wringing wet. The sock must be lathered with water, as methylated spirit will not make a lather at any price. A few days' treatment of this kind and the feet will be worthy to rank with a street arab's in serviceableness, if not in symmetry with Trilby's famous pair."

I should like to take this opportunity of expressing to you my appreciation of the NURSING RECORD. I am not a Nurse, but have always felt great sympathy with the nursing profession, both for its own sake, and because those connected with it form a section of the noble army of women workers. The arrival of the NURSING RECORD is a weekly pleasure to me, and apart from the exceptional interest your paper affords from a professional point of view, I seem to derive moral encouragement and refreshment from its high tone, the air of perseverance, justice, integrity, and sound common sense which pervades it.

Yours truly,

A. S. W.

## WOMEN AND NEWSPAPERS.

To the Editor of "The Nursing Record."

MADAM,—In an excellent criticism of praise accorded to the new Saturday issue of the *Daily Chronicle*, I notice the reviewer states that the *Chronicle* is the only daily newspaper which seems to regard women as of any importance in the world. Now, while agreeing that it undoubtedly has the strongest claim on women's support of any of the papers, we must not be ungrateful to that new, bright little paper, the *Daily Mail*, which adopts a very chivalrous attitude towards women and their position in the body politic. Nor must we forget our friend, the *Westminster Gazette*. Honour to whom honour is due! I hope that women, by encouraging these papers, will show that they are a factor in the world, and that it is to the advantage of newspaper proprietors to give women a prominent place in their columns, and to recognise their needs, their ambitions, and their rights. The stuff inserted by the average male Editor in the usual "Women's Column," would be an insult to the intelligence of a chimpanzee.

Sincerely yours,

A WOMAN WHO WATCHES THE PAPERS.

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